

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 088135
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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

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BANGKOK PLEASE PASS SONGKHLA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, XC, XF, SG
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PAGE 02 STATE 088135

SUBJECT: REPORTING ON PAN ISLAMIC INFLUENCE IN SOUTHEAST
ASIA

1. DEPARTMENT IS AWARE OF THE HISTORY OF SEPARATIST AND
EXTREMIST MUSLIM MOVEMENTS IN SEASIA. THE CURRENTLY
HEIGHTENED PROFILE OF MUSLIM-BASED POLITICAL ACTIONS IN

MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA CALLS FOR INCREASED USG ATTENTION TO THE TREND AND PROSPECTS FOR RADICAL MUSLIM AND/OR PAN-ISLAMIC INFLUENCE IN EAST ASIAN MUSLIM COMMUNITIES. WE URGE POSTS TO ADDRESS THIS TOPIC IN FUTURE REPORTING. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST ARE NATURE AND EXTENT OF CONTACTS BETWEEN LOCAL MUSLIM GROUPS, POLITICAL PARTIES, OR INSURGENCIES, AND EXTERNAL SUPPORTERS INCLUDING ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS OR PRIVATE GROUPS WITHIN THE REGION AS WELL AS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST (PARTICULARLY SAUDI ARABIA AND LIBYA).

2. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, REPORTING SHOULD DEAL WITH THE KINDS OF SUPPORT GIVEN, THE USES TO WHICH IT IS PUT, AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH SUCH ASSISTANCE IS LIKELY TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF LOCAL MUSLIMS TO PLAY A DISRUPTIVE ROLE IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED. WE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN POSTS

IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF TRENDS -- PARTICULARLY WHETHER MUSLIM GROUPS ARE, IN FACT, BECOMING MORE ACTIVE WITH GREATER ADHERENTS OR PUBLIC SUPPORT SUFFICIENT TO POSE CHALLENGES/THREATS TO EXISTING GOVERNMENTS AND U.S. POLICIES.

3. INFORMATION CONCERNING NUMBERS OF STUDENTS OR OTHERS TRAINED ABROAD, NATURE OF TRAINING (PARTICULARLY PARAMILITARY) AND TYPES OF ROLES TO WHICH INDIVIDUALS RETURN
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PAGE 03 STATE 088135

WOULD ALSO BE OF INTEREST.

4. FOR DAKAR: DEPARTMENT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE WAYS IN WHICH THESE RELATIONSHIPS MAY BE REFLECTED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN DAKAR THIS MONTH, INCLUDING THE ROLES PLAYED BY THE INDONESIAN AND MALAYSIAN REPRESENTATIVES. IN ADDITION, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHICH PHILIPPINE MUSLIMS ATTEND THE CONFERENCE, ESPECIALLY WHETHER MISUARI OR SALAMAT HEADS THE PHILIPPINE GROUP, AND WHAT COUNTRIES ASSIST THE FILIPINOS IN LOBBYING FOR CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS. IF DRAFTS OF RESOLUTIONS ON THE PHILIPPINE MUSLIM PROBLEM ARE AVAILABLE, DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DRAFTS IN ADVANCE OF PUBLICATION. DEPARTMENT IS ALSO INTERESTED IN WHAT ROLE PATTANI MUSLIMS FROM SOUTHERN THAILAND PLAY, LARGELY IN THE CORRIDORS, AND WHETHER THE PROBLEM OF THAI MUSLIMS IS ON THE CONFERENCE AGENDA.

5. FOR MANILA: DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT EMBASSY IS ALREADY REPORTING ON MANY OF THESE QUESTIONS. WOULD APPRECIATE, HOWEVER, ANY ADDITIONAL REPORTING ON CONTACTS AND RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PHILIPPINE MUSLIMS AND OTHER

MUSLIMS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. VANCE

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